

House Resolution No. 784

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize the Honorable Dr. James B. Black, a treasured resident of the great state of North Carolina, who will commemorate the resplendent occasion of his Seventieth Birthday on March 24, 2005, in Raleigh; and

Whereas, James B. Black came into this world in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, on March 25, 1935, and graduated from East Mecklenburg High School before earning his A.B. in Business Administration from Lenior Rhyne College and his B.S. in Ocular Science and Doctor of Optometry at Southern College of Optometry; and

Whereas, a lifelong resident of Mecklenburg County who dutifully served his country in the United States Navy for two years and the Navy Reserves for four years, Dr. Black has been a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives for sixteen years, during which time he has held the positions of House Majority Whip from 1993 to 1994, House Minority Leader from 1995 to 1998, and Speaker of the House from 1999 to 2005, tying his state's record for most terms served as Speaker; and

Whereas, when he's not serving in the North Carolina State Legislature, Dr. Black sees patients at Dr. James B. Black and Associates, Optometrists, where he practices with his daughter, Dr. Deborah Black-Carpenter; and

Whereas, a proud recipient of the 1985 North Carolina Optometrist of the Year award and the 2000 Optometrist of the South award, Representative Black is exceedingly proud of his affiliation with the North Carolina State Optometric Society, the American Optometric Society, and Lenior Rhyne College; and

Whereas, a devout member of Matthews United Methodist Church, Representative Black has been abundantly blessed with the love and admiration of a wonderful family whose members include his devoted wife, Betty; his two children, Dr. Deborah Black-Carpenter and James B. Black, Jr.; and his two grandchildren, Nicole and Brennan:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations and birthday greetings to Representative Black as he proudly celebrates seventy years of achievement, and in wishing him only the very best of success as he continues his journey along life's path; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Honorable Dr. James B. Black, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives.

Offered by Speaker Rod Jetton
District No. 156

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 784, adopted February 24, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker